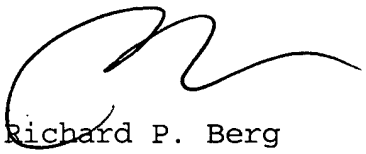
REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends the original Abstract to produce a new amended Abstract that consists of one paragraph and fewer than 150 words. Amendment of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard P. Berg
Reg. No. 28,145
Attorney for Applicant
LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard #2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 934-2300

Enclosure: Appendix A (1 page)

APPENDIX A

RE: New U.S. Patent Application
Applicant: Marco Casassa MONT
Title: "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR VALIDATING..."
Our Ref.: B-5159 621094-6

Please amend the original Abstract as indicated below.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (Amended)

A method and system is provided for validating software code provided to a user entity by a software provider. In general terms, the user entity encrypts first data, provides it to the software provider, and receives back an indication that the code is valid only if the software provider has been able to correctly decrypt the encrypted first data, such decryption only being possible using an appropriate decryption key provided by a party with rights in the software code. More particularly, the user entity encrypts the first data using, as encryption parameters, both an encryption key string comprising said software code or a representation thereof, and public data of the aforesaid party. A decryption key appropriate for correctly decrypting the encrypted first data is generated from the encryption key string and provided to the software provider [by the party with rights in the software code,] only if the software code provided to the user entity is valid. [Generation of this key by the party is effected using both private data related to the party's public data, and the encryption key string or a corresponding reference string based on a reference version of the software code.]